

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KABUL 05595 130837Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00
SSO-00 INRE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 SIL-01 LAB-04
OC-06 CCO-00 /053 W

-----019125 130840Z /12

O 130745Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SESTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3953

AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL KARACHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KABUL 5595

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR, ELAB, AF, OTRA

SUBJ: ARIANA AFGHAN AIRLINES: PILOTS STRIKE

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. IN AN UNPRECEDENTED MOVE, ARIANA
PILOTS WENT OUT ON STRIKE AUGUST 12 GROUNDING ALL THREE
ARIANA AIRCRAFT HERE IN KABUL AND BRINGING AIRLINE OPERATIONS
TO A COMPLETE HALT. ALTHOUGH OTHER CATEGORIES OF PERSONNEL ARE
NOT RPT NOT STRIKING, GROUND CREWS HAVE SAID THEY WILL REFUSE
TO HANDLE AIRCRAFT IF OUTSIDE PILOTS ARE BROUGHT IN. PILOT
DISCONTENT, REPORTEDLY SMOLDERING FOR SOME TIME, WAS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KABUL 05595 130837Z

EVIDENTLY BROUGHT TO A HEAD BY INCREASINGLY THOROUGH SEARCH
OF AIR CREWS BY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS -- WHICH AIR CREWS RESENT --
AND NON-RECEPTIVITY BY ARIANA PRESIDENT, NAJIB --
AT LEAST IN PILOTS VIEW -- TO WHAT THEY SEE AS
LEGITIMATE GRIEVANCES.

2. WHILE WE MAY NOT HAVE FULL CATALOG OF PILOT

DEMANDS, THEY INCLUDE, INTER ALIA, HIGHER PAY, SHORTER FLYING HOURS (NOW REPORTEDLY AS HIGH AS FOURTEEN HOURS PER DAY), RESTITUTION OF ANNUAL BONUS PAYMENTS WHICH HAVE FOR PAST TWO YEARS REPORTEDLY BEEN DENIED TO THE PILOTS AS A CLASS, AND STATION MANAGERS AT ALL STOPS. LATTER DEMAND IS PROBABLY DIRECTED AT FACT THERE IS NOW NO MANAGER IN TASHKENT AND CREWS MUST SHIFT FOR THEMSELVES THERE, OFTEN TO THEIR DISCOMFORT AND IRRITATION.

3. GOVT OF AFGHANISTAN (GOA) IS SEIZED WITH THE ISSUE AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PILOTS ARE UNDERWAY, BUT RESOLUTION OF THE STRIKE IS NOT YET IN SIGHT. END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. COMMENT: BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. THE GOA IS FACING AN UNPRECEDENTED SITUATION IN A COUNTRY WHERE STRIKES ARE UNKNOWN IT IS, THUS GRAPPLING WITH A PROBLEM WITH NO EXPERIENCE OR EXPERTISE AVAILABLE TO BRING TO BEAR ON IT, AND HOW IT RESOLVES THE SITUATION WILL HAVE A SIGNIFICANT BEARING ON FUTURE LABOR RELATIONS.

IN ANY EVENT, THE GENIE IS NOW OUT OF THE BOTTLE AND THE GOA WILL BE FORCED TO GIVE ATTENTION TO LABOR RELATIONS, SOMETHING WHICH IT HAS BEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 KABUL 05595 130837Z

LARGELY ABLE TO IGNORE IN THE PAST. THE STRIKE MAY ALSO BRING TO A HEAD A DECISION ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE AFGHAN AIR AUTHORITY (AAA), ARIANA'S PARENT ORGANIZATION, WHOSE PRESIDENT, SULTAN MAHMOUD GHAZI, HAS BEEN SITTING AT HOME FOR SOME MONTHS IN AN INTERDEPARTMENTAL WRANGLE OVER WHETHER THE AAA WILL REMAIN AUTONOMOUS OR COME UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

DECON 12/31/77.

ELIOT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRLINES, LABOR STRIKES, WAGE RATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KABUL05595
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770292-0520
Format: TEL
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770864/aaaaccgs.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3033f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1610182
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARIANA AFGHAN AIRLINES: PILOTS STRIKE
TAGS: EAIR, ELAB, OTRA, AF
To: STATE AMSTERDAM
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3033f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009